

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A handheld device, comprising:
2 a top portion;
3 a bottom portion;
4 a hinge, rotational about a first axis and having a first end and a second end,
5 coupling the top portion to the bottom portion; and
6 an image capture device, coupled to the first end of the hinge and oriented to
7 capture images aligned along the first axis of the hinge.

1 2. The device of claim 1, wherein:
2 wherein the handheld device is a personal digital assistant.

1 3. The device of claim 1, wherein:
2 wherein the handheld device is a cell phone.

1 4. The device of claim 1, wherein:
2 wherein the handheld device is a laptop computer.

1 5. The device of claim 1, wherein the image capture device includes:
2 an optically adjustable lens.

1 6. The device of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a lens filter coupled to the image capture device along the first axis.

1 7. The device of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a detachable lens coupled to the image capture device along the first axis.

1 8. The device of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a shutter control coupled to the image capture device.

1 9. The device of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a sub-hinge coupling the top portion to the bottom portion, and rotational
3 about a second axis which is perpendicular to the first axis.

1 10. The device of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a small screen interface, coupled to the second end and aligned along the first
3 axis of the hinge, for displaying images captured by the image capture device.

1 11. The device of claim 1, wherein the top portion includes:
2 a large screen interface for displaying images captured by the image capture
3 device and other handheld device information.

1 12. The device of claim 11, wherein the bottom portion includes:
2 a second large screen interface for accepting input for controlling the handheld
3 device.

1 13. A personal digital assistant, comprising:
2 a top portion;
3 a bottom portion;
4 a hinge, rotational about a first axis and having a first end and a second end,
5 coupling the top portion to the bottom portion;

6 an image capture device, coupled to the first end of the hinge and oriented to
7 capture images aligned along the first axis of the hinge;
8 a sub-hinge coupling the top portion to the bottom portion, and rotational
9 about a second axis which is perpendicular to the first axis;
10 a small screen interface, coupled to the second end and aligned along the first
11 axis of the hinge, for displaying images captured by the image capture device;
12 a first large screen interface for displaying images captured by the image
13 capture device and other digital assistant information; and
14 a second large screen interface for accepting input for controlling the digital
15 assistant.

1 14. A method for operating a handheld device, comprising:
2 permitting a first large screen interface to rotate about a first hinge axis with
3 respect to a second large screen interface;
4 capturing images aligned along the first hinge axis; and
5 setting a mode in which the device operates in response to an orientation of the
6 first large screen interface to a second large screen interface.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the setting element includes:
2 displaying information on a small screen interface aligned along the first hinge
3 axis, if the first large screen interface is folded onto the second large screen interface,
4 and the top and bottom large screen interfaces are facing each other.

1 16. The method of claim 14 wherein the setting element includes:
2 displaying information on the first large screen interface in a first portrait
3 orientation, if the first large screen interface is not folded onto the second large screen

4 interface, and there is less than +/- 45 degrees of rotation about a second hinge axis,
5 which is perpendicular to the first hinge axis.

1 17. The method of claim 14 wherein the setting element includes:
2 displaying information on the first large screen interface in a landscape
3 orientation, if the first large screen interface is not folded onto the second large screen
4 interface, and there is more than +/- 45 degrees of rotation about a second hinge axis,
5 which is perpendicular to the first hinge axis.

1 18. The method of claim 16 wherein the setting element includes:
2 displaying information on the first large screen interface in a second portrait
3 orientation, if the first large screen interface is folded onto the second large screen
4 interface, and the first and second large screen interfaces are facing away from each
5 other, wherein the second portrait orientation is upside-down with respect to the first
6 portrait orientation.

1 19. The method of claim 14 wherein the setting element includes:
2 displaying information on both a small screen interface and a large screen
3 interface, if the first large screen interface is folded onto the second large screen
4 interface and the first and second large screen interfaces are facing away from each
5 other.

1 20. A handheld device, comprising a:
2 means for permitting a first large screen interface to rotate about a first hinge
3 axis with respect to a second large screen interface;
4 means for capturing images aligned along the first hinge axis; and

- 5 means for setting a mode in which the device operates in response to an
- 6 orientation of the first large screen interface to a second large screen interface.